

ARTICLES
TO BE
ENQUIRED OF
WITHIN
THE DIOCESE
OF
LINCOLNE,

In the General and Triennial Visitation
OF THE

Right Reverend Father in God

WILLIAM

By Divine Permission

Fuller.

Lord Bishop of that DIOCESE,

Anno Dom. 1671.

Et Translationis sue Anno Quarto.

In the sAVOR,
Printed by Tho. Newcomb 1671.

ARTICLES

TO BE

ENQUIRED OF

WITHIN

THE SPACE OF

ONE

MONTH

In the General and Triennial Visitation

OF THE

Right Reverend Father in God

WILLIAM

By Divine Providence

Lord Bishop of the Diocese of

Gloucester and Hereford

Visitation of the said Diocese



84

1798 by the Hon. William Pitt

THe Church-wardens are not to put off the making of their Presentments to the very day of the Bishops Visitation, but at some convenient time before, the Minister, Church-wardens, and Side-men, are to read over these Articles of Enquiry diligently. The Minister at the reading of each Article, is to ask the Church-wardens and Side-men what they can present concerning that Article, and accordingly to write and set it down. And to avoid all Errors in drawing up the Bill of Presentment, it is to be made according to this following Form, or as near unto it, as conveniently may be; and to be given up in a Sheet of Paper, viz.

*A Direction for the Church-wardens to draw up
their Presentations.*

At the Lord Bishop of Lincolns Visitation
held at the day of
1671.

WE the Church-wardens and Side-men of
have diligently perused
all the particulars contained in the First Title of
the Book of Articles; and we present

And otherwise we have nothing to present concerning that Title.

Also we have perused the Second Title, and we present

And so the Third, until the Book be gone through.

And under all, let every Church-warden and Side-man write or subscribe his own hand or mark to the Presentment, and so deliver it; for it will be required of them to give an Answer thus particularly unto every Title of those Articles, if not to every particular Article in the Book.

THe Minister of every Parish both may and ought to joyn with the Church-wardens, or other sworn Men, for the Presenting of Offences; and if they be so Irreligious as not to do so, the Minister of himself may and ought to present either the Offences, or the Churchwardens and Questmen, for not presenting the same; and is required in his Canonical Obedience so to do.

And if (their Oath and all this punctual Direction and Advertisement notwithstanding) any Churchwardens or other sworn Men, shall follow the Customary manner, and be careless in inquiring and presenting as they ought, then shall they not be able hereafter to say, that they had not fair warning to the contrary given them in the spirit of Merckless, or to complain they are hardly dealt with, if (upon information and proof otherwise had) they be called to answer their wilful Perjury, in some other Court, or Course of Justice, for neglecting to enquire and present to all the particulars herein proposed.

Lastly, with their Bull of Presentment they are to certify the Names of all Persons which have been married in their Parish since the 28th day of May last, by any Licence or Dispensation, and what Ecclesiastical Judge granted the same. And also the Names and Surnames of all Persons which since the same day have died possessed of any Goods in their Parish, and who do now possess the same, and by what Right? And this will be particularly required of all Churchwardens.

The Oath ministred to the Churchwardens and Side-men.

YOU shall swear diligently and duly to enquire, and true Presentment make, so far as by Law you stand bound, of all Offences or Defaults mentioned in the Articles given you in charge, or otherwise against the Ecclesiastical Laws, together with the Names of the several Offenders therein: And that you will not present any person out of malice or ill-will, nor spare any for fear or favour.

So help you God.

ARTICLES to be enquired of in the Diocese of LINCOLNE.

TIT. I.

Concerning the Kings Supremacy and Authority.



Is there any who doth affirm or teach, That the Kings Majesty hath not the same Authority in Causes Ecclesiastical, that the Godly Kings had among the Jews, and Christian Emperours in the Primitive Church? Or that the Kings Majesty within his Realms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and all other his Dominions and Countreys, is not the highest Power under God? Or that doth impeach any part of his Royal Supremacy? Who is it, declare your knowledge herein, &c?

Canon 1.
& 2.

2. Is there any that doth affirm or teach, That it is lawful for any sort of Ministers and Lay Persons, or either of them, to joyn together and to make Rules, Orders, and Constitutions in Causes Ecclesiastical, without the Kings Authority? Or any that submit themselves to be ruled and governed by the same?

Canon 12.

TIT. II.

Concerning Churches and Chappels, with the Ornaments, Furniture, and Possession belonging to them.

1. Is your Parish Church or Chappel well and sufficiently repaired? Are the Windows well glazed, the Floor kept paved plain and even, and all things therein in such an orderly and decent sort without dust, or any thing that may be either noisome or unseemly?

Canon 85.

2. Is there in the Church or Chappel a Font of Stone standing in the usual ancient place, with a Cover to it, for the Administration of

Canon 81.

Bap.

Can. 82. Baptism? Is there also a convenient Communion Table, with a fair Carpet of Silk or other decent Stuff, in the time of Divine Service, and with a fair Linnen Cloth, at the time of Administring the Sacrament? What Cup, Chalice, Patin, or Flagon, have you belonging to that service?

Can. 58. 3. Have you a fair Surplice for the Minister to wear at the time of his publick Administration, provided and duly washed at the Charge of the Parish?

Can. 83. 4. Have you in the Church or Chappel a convenient Seat or Pew for the Minister to read Divine Service in, and a Pulpit with a decent Cloth or Cushion for the same? A Bible of the last Translation in a large Volume, and two Books of Common Prayer well bound, one for the Minister and another for the Clerk, the Book of Homilies, the Book of Canons, and the Table of Degrees allowed and prohibited in Mariages?

Can. 99. 5. Have you a Register Book in Parchment of all the Names and Surnames of all such as are Christened, with the Names and Surnames of their Parents, as also of such as are Buried and Married? And is the same kept in all Points according to the ancient use? And are the Names of all such Parties set down by your Minister every Lords Day in the presence of the Church-wardens? Have you a Book of Paper, to record the Names, Surnames, and Licences of such Strangers as are admitted to preach in the Church or Chappel? And do such Strangers subscribe their Names? As also a third Book for the Church-wardens Accounts? And also a Chest with Locks and Keys, wherein to keep the said Books and the afore-mentioned Furniture? And is the Transcript of all these Books yearly within one Moneth next after the 25th of March brought into the Bishops Registry?

Can. 70. 6. Is your Church-yard well and sufficiently fenced, maintained, and kept with Walls, Railes, or Pales, as hath been heretofore accustomed; and if not, by whose negligence or default it that the Fences of the same are grown to decay? And are the Trees therein preserved?

Canon 85. 7. Have any Persons encroached upon the ground of the Church-yard or other consecrated ground, if so, set out what quantity of ground is so encroached upon, and what new door hath been made out into the Church-yard?

Except. in
the Act of
Indempn.
8. Do you know, or have you heard of any person who hath imbezelled, concealed, or converted to his own use, or sold to others any Ornaments, Utensils, or Materials, belonging to any Church, Chappel, Pastorage, or Vicaridge House, during or since the late War?

Lind. lib. 1.
Archid.
9. Is the House of the Parson, Vicar, or Curate (with all the Out-houses thereunto belonging) kept in good and sufficient repair? Or have any of the said Houses or Out-houses been defaced or pulled down

Articles.

down without Licence from the Ordinary, and by whom? Hath any person encroached upon any Garden, Yard, or Close belonging to the Parsonage or Vicaridge House? Or cut up any Trees growing thereon? Or changed, or removed the Ancient Marks and Bounds of the same?

Ibid. de Ecclesiast. Edif.

10. Have any of the ancient Glebe Lands belonging to the Parsonage or Vicarage been taken away or exchanged for other, without the free consent of the Incumbent, and Licence from the Ordinary? Have any Inclosures been made in the Parish, to the detriment of the Church, by the decay of Tillage, and converting Arable Land into Pasture? By whom hath the same been made, and how many years since, and how much is your Parsonage or Vicarage damaged thereby in the yearly value thereof, as you know, believe, or have heard?

Lind. lib. 3. de Rebus Ecclesiast.

TIT. III.

Concerning Ministers.

1. **I**s the Minister, Curate, or Lecturer, Episcopally ordained? Is he licenced to preach by the Bishop or either of the Universities?

Can. 36.

2. Is the Minister suspected to have obtained his Benefice by any Simonical Contract? Hath he been legally inducted into the same? And did he within two Moneths after his Induction, publicly in your Church, upon some Sunday or Holyday, in the time of Divine Service, read the 39 Articles of the Church of England, established by Authority, and there publicly declare his assent thereunto?

Q. Eliz. In junct. 26.

Can. 40.

3. Is the Minister constantly resident among you? Hath he an able and conformable Curate to assist him in his absence or presence? Doth he carry himself in all things as an able and discreet Minister, and conformable to the Church of England? Doth he serve any more Cures beside that of the Parish, and at what distance? What is the name of your Curate, and what yearly Stipend doth your Minister allow him?

Can. 47. and 48.

4. Have you in the Parish besides the Parson, Vicar, or Curate, any Lecturer or Lecturers, not having Cure of Souls therein? Doth your Lecturer conform himself to the Laws, Ordinances, and Rites Ecclesiastical established in the Church of England? Doth he at the place appointed for his Lecture, upon the first Lecture day of every Month, before his Lecture, openly, publicly, and solemnly read the Common Prayer and Service appointed to be read for that time of the day? And doth he as oft in every year administer the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lords Supper in such manner and form, and with the observation of such Rites and Ceremonies as are prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer?

Can. 55. and 56.

Can. 54.

Act of Parliament before the Common Prayer.

5, Doth

828
4
Can. 14

Articles.
5. Doth your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, audibly and distinctly, with reverence and devotion, read all Morning and Evening Service, and in reading of the same, Administration of the Sacraments, Celebration of Marriage, Churching of Women after Child-birth, Visitation of the Sick, Burial of the Dead, and Pronouncing Gods Communion against Impenitent Sinners, use the form and words prescribed in the Common Prayer, without any addition, omission, or alteration of the same? And doth he use all such Rites and Ceremonies in all parts of Divine Service, as are appointed in the said Book, so far as you have observed?

Can. 15.

6. Doth your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, read the Canons of the Church publicly once every year; and doth he publicly read the

Can. 64.

Lerany every Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday in every Week? Doth he declare on the Sunday what Holy-days and Fasting days are in the Week following? And doth he and the Parishioners observe the same? Doth he give notice of the Communion, Banns of Matrimony, and Perambulation in Rogation Weeks, and read the Briefs and Excommunications delivered to him?

Can. 65.

7. Doth your Parson, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer, preaching or catechising in your Church or Chappel, declare or assert any Opinion or Doctrine Schismatical, Heretical, or Seditious, contrary to the

Can. 51.

Articles of the Church of England by Law established; thereby to seduce the People into Parties and Factions, to the disturbance of the Publick Peace and Unity of the Church or State?

Can. 72.

and 73.

8. Hath your Minister taken upon him to appoint any Publick or Private Fast, Prophecies, or Exercises, not appointed by Authority? Or doth he or any other, either Minister or Lay Person, hold any Conventicles or Meetings in Private Houses within your Parish, for People of several Families to resort unto, under the pretence of Preaching, Praying, Thanksgiving or Humiliation, contrary to the Laws and Canons in that Case provided?

Can. 45.

and 46.

9. Doth your Minister, being licensed to preach himself, preach in your Church or Chappel one Sermon every Sunday in the year. Being no licensed Preacher, doth he procure Sermons to be preached in his Cure once every Moneth at the least by Preachers which are lawfully licensed: Or one of the Homilies set forth by Authority to be there read every Sunday by a Priest or Deacon?

Can. 58.

10. Doth your Minister at the reading or celebrating any Divine Office in your Church or Chappel wear the Surplice, together with such other Scholistical Habit as is suitable to his degree; and in preaching doth he wear a Gown?

Can. 68.

11. Doth your Minister refuse or delay to Christen any Child that is brought to him in the Church on Sundays or Holydays? Doth he proceed therein in all things according to the Form of Publick Baptism?

Article.
Alme in the Common-Prayer Book? Or doth he permit any person to be God-father or God-mother before he or she hath received the Holy Communion?

Can. 29.

12. Doth your Minister, being duly informed of the weakness and danger of Death of any Infant unbaptized in his Parish; and being thereupon desired to go unto the place; and baptize the same, either willfully refuse to do, or negligently delay the time; so that the Child departeth without Baptisme through his default: Or if the Child so baptized do recover afterwards, is it brought into the Church by the God-fathers and God-mothers, to the intent that the Congregation may be satisfied of the Baptizing thereof?

Can. 69.

13. Doth your Minister diligently instruct the youth of your Parish in the Church Catechism, ~~and~~ and doth he prepare and present them, being so instructed, to be confirmed by the Bishop? And doth he endeavour to reclaim all Popish Recusants and other Sectaries (if any such be inhabiting within your Parish) to the true Religion established in the Church of England, and to their bounden duty in obeying the Law, and submitting to the Government thereof?

Can. 59.
and 61.

14. Doth your Minister, as often as the Bishop giveth notice for Children to be brought to him for their Confirmation, either bring or send in Writing to the Bishop of the Diocese the Names of all those Children whom he thinks to be fit for Confirmation?

Rubrick for
Confirmat.

15. Doth your Minister, or any other in your Parish, celebrate Matrimony between any Persons, without Banns of Matrimony first published on three several Sundays or Holydays, except by special Licence granted duly and by lawful Authority; or at any other place than in the Church: and in the Church at any other time than between the hours of Eight and Twelve in the Forenoon: and at any time betwixt such Persons as are prohibited in the Table of Marriage, or are under the age of One and twenty years, without the consent of the Parents signified unto him, or of their Guardians and Governors, if the Parents be deceased: Or hath he married those, of whom neither party dwelleth in the Parish?

Can. 62.

16. Doth your Minister refuse or delay to bury any Corps that is brought into the Church or Church-yard, convenient warning being given him before; except the party deceased were denounced Excommunicate (*Majori Excommunicatione*) for some grievous Crime, and no man able to testify of his repentance; and doth he do it decently and gravely, not swerving from the Form prescribed by the Church in the Common-Prayer Book?

Can. 99.

Can. 100.

Can. 68.

17. Is your Parson, Vicar, Curate, or Lecturer, a Man of sober, unblameable, and exemplary life? Doth he familiarly converse with ungodly, vicious, and excommunicate persons? Is he a frequenter of

Can. 75.

Can. 62.

Can. 74. Taverns or Ale-houses; or Common Gaming, or Swearing, or Railing, or Quarrelling, or Drunkenness, or any other such unchristianlike and unseemly behaviour, or encourage them to Suits and Contentions? It is noted to be an intemperate Drinker, or vehemently suspected of Incontinency with any Person, either within the Parish or without? Doth he wear his Hair and Band of an immoderate and untimely length? Is his Apparel grave, and decent, as the Customs of the Church require, or is his Carriage and Conversation in any kind whatsoever, disorderly, or scandalous, and unbecoming a Minister of Jesus Christ?

Tit. iv

Concerning the Parishioners.

Can. 110. 1. **I**S therein your Parish any person a known or reputed Heretic, or Schismatic, any Papist, Familist, Anabaptist, Quaker, or other Sectaries, that refuse to come unto the Publick Assemblies, Prayers, or Services of the Church, that make Profession of any other Religion than what is established in the Church of England; and if there be any such, what are their Names?

Can. 109. 2. **I**S there any person in your Parish that liveth under a common fame, or vehement suspicion of Adultery, Fornication, or Incest? Are there any Common Drunkards within your Parish, or Common Swearers, or Blasphemers of Gods Name? or any that are noted to be Raters, uncleans, or filthy Talkers, or Sowers of Sedition, Faction, and Discord among their Neighbours?

3. **D**O any of your Parish upon Sundays or Holydays, follow their bodily and ordinary labour, or permit their Servants so to do, unless it be at the time of Harvest, or any other time when necessity requires? Are any Shops kept open, or Wares sold, or do any Vintners, Rinkkeepers, or other Victuallers and Sellers of Beer or Ale, suffer any person to tipple or game in their Houses upon those days?

Can. 18. 4. **D**Oth every person inhabiting and sojourning within your Parish, duly resort unto your Church or Chappel, upon every Sunday and Holyday appointed for Divine Service: Do they then and there abide quietly, with reverence, order, and decency, during all the whole time of Common Prayer, Preaching, or other Service of God there used: And are there any among you that come only to the Preaching, and not to the Common Prayers of the Church?

Can. 18. 5. **D**Oth every person reverently uncover his head, and so continue all the time of Divine Service in the Church? Do they all reverently kneel at the Prayers, and stand up when the Creed and Gospel are read, making due reverence when the Name of our Lord Jesus is mentioned?

Articles

6. Are there any in your Parish that refuse to send their Infant Children to be baptized publickly in the Church, unless in case of urgent danger; in which case the Child may be baptized at home by a lawful Minister, after the Form and Rites appointed in the Liturgy? If baptized at home, by whom? Give his Name and Place of abode. Or do they send them from their own Minister, to be baptized in any other Parishes; or after other Form than is appointed? Or do they keep them unbaptized any longer time than the Church alloweth; and are there any Infants or more aged persons in your Parish, as yet unbaptized?

Rubrick of Baptism.

7. Doth every Householder in your Parish cause their Children and Servants to come to Church to learn their Catechism, and to give an account thereof unto your Minister, as he shall require it of them openly in the Church upon Sundays and Holydays, as in the Book of Common-Prayer is appointed; that when they are well instructed in the same, they may be confirmed by the Bishop?

Can. 59.

8. Is there any person in your Parish, who being sixteen years of age, and well-instructed in Religion, doth not receive the Sacrament of the Lords Supper, at least three times in the year, of which Easter is alwayes to be one? Doth any in your Parish refuse to receive the same kneeling, or from the hands of your own Minister, repairing for it to other Parishes and Ministers abroad? Or are there any Strangers, not of your Parish, that forsake their own Churches, and usually repair to yours for it?

Can. 112.

Can. 114.

9. Have you any among you that be denounced and declared Ex-communicate, for any Crime committed? How long have they been so excommunicated; and do any of your Parish keep society with them before they be reconciled to the Church and absolved?

Can. 65.

10. Are there any in your Parish, who are known or suspected to be unlawfully married, contrary to the Laws of God and his Church? Or any living as Man and Wife, who are within the Degrees prohibited? Or any (who being lawfully married, and never divorced) do yet live asunder: Or any who being lawfully divorced, do live together again: Or being separated for Adultery, have afterwards entered married with any other, during the life of their first Consort?

Can. 99.

851 and

Can. 107.

11. Are there any Married Women in your Parish who after their Delivery from the Peril of Child-Birth, refuse to make their Publick Thanksgiving to God in the Church: And when they come so to do, do they come decently apparelled, and make their Offerings according to Custom?

Rubrick Com. Pray.

12. Are there any belonging to your Parish, who refuse to pay their duty for Easter-Offering, to your Minister, or any that refuse to contribute and pay the Rate assessed upon them for the repair of your Church or Chappel, and for the providing of such Books, Furniture,

27 Hen. 8.

20.

Rubrick

Com. Pray.

By the Bishop of the Diocese of London

Can. 85. and Ornaments, as be requisite for the performance of all Divine Offices there? Present the Names of such as do refuse.

Rubr. 13. Do any refuse to bury their Dead according to the Rites of the Church of *England*? Do any bury their Dead in unconsecrated places? Name them. Are there any Wills or Testaments of Persons dead in your Parish, that be yet unproved; or any Goods administered without a due Grant from the Ordinary? Did any dying in your Parish, or elsewhere, leave any Legacy to your Church or Chappel, to the use of the Poor, or any other Charitable Purposes: What were those Legacies, and how have they been bestowed?

Can. 92.

Lind. lib. 3.
de Test.

14. Is there any strife and contention among any of your Parish for their Pews or Seats in the Church? Have any new Pews been erected in the Chancel, or in the Body of the Church or Chappel, without leave from the Ordinary?

Art Parl.
1671.

15. Do you know, or have heard of any Person or Persons, who detain in their hands any Money collected for the Poor, afflicted by the late Plague or Burning of the City of *London*, what is the sum, and by whom is it detained?

TIT. V. Concerning Ecclesiastical Officers.

Vide Oath.
Can. 127.

1. DO you know that any Ecclesiastical Judge, or any of the Registrars or Apparators, or other Officer belonging to the Ecclesiastical Courts, hath taken Rewards or Gifts for perverting Justice, or denied Justice to any man who lawfully required the same?

2. Do you know or have heard that any of the said Judges or Registrars, or any belonging to the said Courts, do favour any Popish or other Recusants, or do forbear to enquire, cite, denounce and censure them?

Can. 128:

3. Have the said Ecclesiastical Judges appointed and constituted certain and determined Surrogates and Substitutes, such as are Persons of Gravity, Favourers of true Religion, and men of modest and honest Conversation? Or otherwise have they appointed persons scandalous for being addicted to Intemperance, Incontinence, or any kind of vice, or Persons that are Favourers, Promoters, or Assistants of Clandestine Marriages, or such as care not to preserve the necessary Discipline, and honour of the Church?

4. Whether hath the Chancellor, Commissaries, or any using Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction upon the Presentment or Information given unto him, of any foul Offences or Scandals in your Parish, not punished the Persons detected, so that the Congregation hath not been satisfied both of Justice done, and of the amendment of the Party, and who were the Parties committing the said Offences, as Incest, Adultery, Fornication, Drunkenness, Blasphemy, Heresie, Clandestine Marriage, Profaning of the Church, or such like?

5. Whe-

5. Whether hath any Ordinary in the Diocese commuted the Penance of any Delinquent convicted? What persons have so commuted, and how hath the Money been disposed of to Charitable Uses, as far as you know or have heard?

Vide Can. An. 1571. Tit. Cancellarii & Can. 1597. C. nequa, &c. Can. 115.

6. Whether do the Ecclesiastical Judges suffer any persons detected for Crimes, to sue and molest Churchwardens who detected them for the same?

7. Whether do you know or have heard that any of the said Judges, when the deceased died without a Will, hath assigned any part of the Goods to Charitable Uses, and how have you known them to have been employed?

Plowden, An. 7 Eli. fol. 278.

8. Whether in such Cases of dying without a Will, doth the Ecclesiastical Judge send out Intimation to summon the Creditors, Wife, Children, and Kindred to come and take Administration, and commit the same as far as the Law permits, not to needy persons, but to able men, and such as enter sufficient Bond, to preserve the Estate; and to answer all that is due, and save the Lord Bishop harmless?

Stat. 21 H. 8.

9. Whether doth the said Judge Ecclesiastical when a Benefice is vacant, commit Sequestration to able men, that do answer and account truly for the mean profits? And whether are the Parishes during the vacancy well served with able Ministers?

10. Whether do you know, or have credibly heard, that the said Judges Ecclesiastical, Registers, or Apparators, do take any extraordinary or more Fees for Probate of Wills, Administrations, Accounts, Assignations of Portions or Citations, or for any other Act or thing done or sped by them, then are allowed by the Statutes of the Land, or any Fees greater then heretofore have been accustomed, in other Businesses belonging to their Courts?

Can. 135.

11. Whether do you know, or have heard, that any Registrar of the said Courts hath sped any Act, or dismissed any Person detected, without the knowledge and actual consent of the Judge?

Can. 134.

12. Doth the Chancellor, Commissary, or Official, or any of their Surrogates, carelessly, or for hope of gain, disperse or grant Licenses for the Celebration of Matrimony, until it do appear to the person himself who is Judge in these Cases, by the Oaths of two sufficient Witnesses, one of them known to the Judge, or to some person whom the Judge dares trust in this particular; That the express consent of the Parents or Parent (if one be dead) or Guardians, or Guardian of the Parties, is thereunto had and obtained, and until one of the Parties to be married have personally sworn that he believeth there is no let or impediment of Precontract, Kindred, or Alliance, nor any other lawful Cause, nor any Suit commenced in any Ecclesiastical Court, to bar or hinder the proceeding of the said Matrimony?

Can. 103.

& Constit.

1597. Tit.

de moderan-

dis Indul-

genti.

13. Whether is there in every place where Ecclesiastical Courts are

Can. 136.

kept,

kept, and also in the Registry of every such Office or Court a Table of Fees set up, that every one may read the same; containing all the Fees that every Officer of the Court ought to take, according to the Canon made at the Convocation under Archbishop *Whitgift*, *An. Dom. 1597.*

Can. 138.

14. Whether are there more Apparators belonging to the Courts than the Law alloweth, or heretofore were accustomed? Whether do any of the Apparators buy or take to farm their Offices, or the execution of the same? Or do intrench upon the Office of the Judge?

15. Whether doth any person to your knowledge, or as you have heard, take upon him to execute both the places of Judge and Register, directly or indirectly?

TIT. VI.

Concerning Parish-Clerks and Sextons.

Can. 91.

1. **H**AVE you belonging to your Church or Chappelry a Parish-Clerk, aged 21 years at least? Is he of honest life, and conversation? and sufficient or able to perform his duty, reading, writing, and singing? Is he chosen by your Minister, and doth he duly attend him in all Divine Services at the Church? Are his Wages duly paid unto him? and who withholdeth the same from him?

2. Doth he or the Sexton (if there be any such appointed in your Parish) diligently look to the Doors of the Church, that they be locked and opened at due time; and doth he keep the Church or Chappel clean from dust, cobwebs, and other annoyances? Doth he toll or ring the Bells at the due accustomed hours before the beginning of Divine Service, Morning and Evening, that the people may be warned to come unto the Church? And when any person is passing out of this life, doth he upon notice given him thereof, toll a Bell, as hath been accustomed, that the Neighbours may thereby be warned to recommend the dying person to the grace and favour of God?

Canon 67.

TIT. VII.

Concerning Hospitals, Schools, School-Masters, School-Mistresses, Physicians, Chyrurgeans, and Midwives.

2 Hen. 8. c. 1.
Q. Ed. 6. c. 4.

1. **I**S there in your Parish any Hospital, Alms-house, or Free-School, not of the Kings Foundation or Patronage? Who was the Founder, or is now the Patron thereof? Or what is the yearly Revenue, or Stipend, belonging to the Governors or Masters of the same? Is the same ordered and governed in every respect as it ought to be? And are the Revenues thereof rightly employed, according to the intention of the Founder, and of such Grants or Ordinances as have been made concerning the same?

Can. 77.

2. Doth any man keep a publick or private School in your Parish, who is not allowed thereto by the Bishop? Doth your School-Master

ster or Usher teach his Scholars the Catechisme of the Church? Doth he teach any other Catechisme, or any other Grammar, than what are set forth by Authority? Doth he cause them upon Sundays and Holydays orderly, to repair to your Church or Chappel; and see that they behave themselves there quietly and reverently, during the time of Divine Service and Sermon?

Can. 79.

3. Doth any Woman keep a School in your Parish, who is not allowed thereunto by the Bishop? Is she modest, of good report, and conformable to the Church of England? Doth she teach them the Catechisme of the Church, and doth she wish them repair to the Church upon Sundays and Holydays, and there demean themselves reverently the whole time of Divine Service and Sermon? And doth she bring her Scholars to the Minister of the Parish, to be prepared for Confirmation by the Bishop?

4. Doth any man in your Parish practise Physick, or Chyrurgery, or any Woman take upon her to exercise the Office of a Midwife, without our Approbation and Licence from the Ordinary?

3 H. 8. 11.

TIT. VIII.

Queries to be put to the Minister, concerning the Church-wardens and Side-men.

1. Are the Church-wardens of your Parish yearly and duly chosen by the joynt consent of the Minister and Parishioners; or one of them by the Minister, and the other by the Parishioners? And are there Side-men appointed to assist them for the due ordering of the Church?

Can. 89.

2. Have the former and last Churchwardens given up their due Accounts to the Parish, and delivered up to the succeeding Churchwardens the moneys remaining in their hands, together with all other things belonging to your Church or Chappel?

Can. 89.

3. Do the Church-wardens and Side-men take diligent care, and see who of the Parishioners be absent from the Divine Service and Sermon in your Church or Chappel, upon Sundays or Holydays? And if they find any of them to have absented themselves without a sufficient cause? Do they by Warrant from some of the Justices of Peace, levy of them by way of Distress upon their Goods, the sum of 12 d. for every such day of their absence, according to the Act of Parliament in that case provided? And do they, the several sums so levied, distribute among the Poor of the Parish, according to the Law?

Can. 90.

1 Q. Eliz. 2.

4. Do they present them that come late to Church, after Divine Service is begun, or depart before it be ended? Do they suffer none to stand idle, or talk together in the Church-porch, or to walk in the Church or Church-yard, during the time of Prayers, Preaching, or

Can. 18.

Can. 19.

other.

other Sacred Offices? Do they about the midst of Divine Service usually walk forth and make search for such as are then abroad in the Streets or in Taverns or Ale-houses, suspected to harbour ill company?

Can. 18. 5. Do they suffer no misbehaviour or disorder to be done by Men, or Women, Servants or Children, in your Church or Chappel? Are they careful that none of them sit, lean, or lay their Hats upon the Communion Table? Do they permit no Minstrels, no Morrice-Dancers, no Dogs, Hawks, or Hounds, to be brought into your Church, to the disturbance of the Congregation?

Can. 20. 6. Do they against every Communion appointed in your Church or Chappel, provide a sufficient quantity of fine White Bread, and of good Wine, according to the number of Communicants?

Can. 52. 7. Do they cause all Strangers, that preach in your Church or Chappel, to subscribe their Names the same day in a Book provided for that purpose, together with the Name of the Bishop that licenced them to preach in this Diocese? And do they permit no other to preach?

8. Were there any Presentments made upon any of the Articles before rehearsed at my Primary Visitation, Anno Dom. 1668. by the Church-wardens of your Parish? were the Presentments prosecuted, and Delinquents punished, if not, by whose fault or neglect was the same omitted, declare your knowledge, and what you have heard herein?

Can. 119. 9. Have they (the Church-wardens and Side-men) now sworn to give in a true Answer unto all these Articles of Inquiry in all their several Tides, taken sufficient time to draw up their Presentments, and therein consulted with you their Minister, for your faithful Assistance?

For know you assuredly, that as the true discharging of your Office is the chief means whereby publick Disorders, Sins, and Offences in your Parish may be reformed and punished, the Bishop however willing, nor being able to punish, till due Presentments are made: so if you willfully refuse to present such Crimes and Faults as either you know to have been committed, or otherwise to have heard of by publick fame; that, in such Cases the Bishop and his Officers are to proceed against you, in their Ecclesiastical Courts, as in Cases of Wilful Omission and Perjury.

The Ministers of every Parish are desired to prepare and give in the Names of such of the younger sort of their several Parishes, as they judge fit to receive Confirmation from the Bishop, and to present them to be confirmed, especially such as having competently learned their Catechisme, have not yet received the Holy Communion, and to present them to the Bishop to be confirm'd, as there shall be opportunity.

